



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

Public Health Alert

DATE: March 2, 2021

Child Scratched by Unknown Cat on March 1, 2021, on Wild Fig Court. Seeking Information about Cat.

A child was scratched by an unknown cat on Wild Fig Court in Frederick, Maryland, on Monday, March 1, 2021. The scratch occurred when the victim took out the trash and inadvertently spooked the cat. The cat is described as being either solid black or black with a white chest and is believed to be a stray in the vicinity.

The Frederick County Health Department is requesting that the owner, or anyone who has information regarding the animal, contact Frederick County Animal Control (FCAC) so the victim may avoid receiving unnecessary and expensive post-exposure rabies vaccinations. Contact is needed to confirm the animal's health and whereabouts. The animal will be quarantined, which can occur in the owner's home, for 10 days to monitor its health. If the animal is verified to be in good health 10 days after the bite, the victim will not need to receive the series of post-exposure rabies vaccinations, and the animal will be allowed to resume normal activity. The owner or anyone who has information about the animal is asked to contact Frederick County Animal Control at 301-600-1544.

If you or someone in your family is bitten or scratched by a dog or cat, obtain contact information from the animal's owner so that appropriate action can be taken. Report bites to Animal Control at 301-600-1544. Report possible human exposure to Community Health Services at 301-600-3342. For general rabies questions, call Environmental Health Services at 301-600-1717. Visit health.frederickcountymd.gov/RABIES for more information.

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